

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of accessing, by a client, one or more files residing in a server comprising:

requesting, by the client, downloading of a
5 selected file residing in the server, the selected file associated with at least one associated file;

in response to requesting downloading of the selected file, initiating downloading of the selected file and automatically determining the identity of, and
10 initiating downloading of, the at least one associated file; and

initiating storing, in a memory associated with the client, of the selected file and the at least one associated file under respective local identifiers.

15

2. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising maintaining, by a document manager residing in the server, respective profiles of the one or more files.

20

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the selected file is associated with at least one profile, the at least one profile identifying the at least one associated file.

25

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein the profile identifies the at least one associated file by the Uniform Resource Locator.

30

5. The method of Claim 1, wherein automatically determining the identity of, and initiating downloading of, the at least one associated file comprises examining

a profile of the selected file, the profile identifying the at least one associated file.

6. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising
5 maintaining a respective status file for each of the selected file and the at least one associated file, each status file indicating one or more properties of the respective selected file and the at least one associated file.

10

7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the status file is a cookie file.

8. The method of Claim 6, wherein the status file
15 consists solely of a timestamp indicative of a time of download.

9. The method of Claim 6, wherein the status file comprises a timestamp indicative of a time of download, a
20 check out status, and respective identities of the at least one associated file.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein the memory associated with the client is a root of a cache, the root
25 identified by a root directory identifier.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein each of the respective local identifiers comprises the root directory identifier.

30

12. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising:

generating, by the client, the one or more files for uploading to the server;

generating, by the client, a profile associated with each of the one or more files; and

5 uploading, by the client, the profile and the each of the one or more files to the server.

10

13. A method of accessing, by a client, one or more files managed by a document manager residing in a server, the method comprising:

requesting, by the client, downloading of a
5 selected file residing in the server, the selected file associated with at least one associated file, the selected file and the at least one associated file identified by respective Uniform Resource Locators;

in response to requesting downloading of the
10 selected file, initiating downloading of the selected file and automatically determining the identity of, and initiating downloading of, the at least one associated file;

generating respective local identifiers
15 identifying the selected file and the at least one associated file that are indicative of the respective Uniform Resource Locators identifying the selected file and the at least one associated file;

initiating storing, in a memory associated with
20 the client, of the selected file and the at least one associated file; and

maintaining a status file for the selected file and each of the at least one associated file.

25 14. The method of Claim 13, and further comprising maintaining, by the document manager, respective profiles of the one or more files.

15. The method of Claim 13, wherein the selected
30 file is associated with a profile, the profile identifying the at least one associated file.

16. The method of Claim 13, wherein automatically determining the identity of, and initiating downloading of, the at least one associated file comprises examining
5 a profile of the selected file, the profile identifying the at least one associated file by the Uniform Resource Locator.

17. The method of Claim 13, wherein the status file
10 indicates one or more properties of the respective selected file and the at least one associated file.

18. The method of Claim 13, wherein the status file is a cookie file.
15

19. The method of Claim 13, wherein the status file consists solely of a timestamp indicative of a time of download.

20. The method of Claim 13, wherein the status file comprises a timestamp indicative of a time of download, a check out status, and respective identities of the at least one associated file.

21. The method of Claim 13, wherein the memory associated with the client is a root of a cache, the root identified by a root directory identifier.
25

22. The method of Claim 21, wherein each of the
30 respective local identifiers comprises the root directory identifier.

23. The method of Claim 13, and further comprising:
generating, by the client, the one or more
files for uploading to the server;
- 5 generating, by the client, a profile associated
with each of the one or more files; and
- uploading, by the client, the profile and the
each of the one or more files to the server.

24. An apparatus for accessing, by a client, one or more files residing in a server comprising:

software stored on a computer readable medium and operable, when executed on a processor, to:

5 request downloading of a selected file residing in a server, the selected file associated with at least one associated file;

in response to the request, initiate downloading of the selected file and automatically
10 determine the identity of, and initiate downloading of, the at least one associated file; and

initiate storing, in a memory associated with the client, of the selected file and the at least one associated file under respective local identifiers.

15

25. The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein each of the one or more files is associated with a profile, the profile maintained by a document manager residing in the server.

20

26. The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the selected file is associated with a profile, the profile identifying the at least one associated file.

25

27. The apparatus of Claim 26, wherein the profile identifies the at least one associated file by the Uniform Resource Locator.

30

28. The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the software is operable to examine a profile of the selected file in order to automatically determine the identity of, and

29

initiate downloading of, the at least one associated file, the profile identifying the at least one associated file.

5 29. The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the software is further operable to maintain a respective status file for each of the selected file and the at least one associated file, each status file indicating one or more properties of the respective selected file and the at
10 least one associated file.

30. The apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the status file is a cookie file.

15 31. The apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the status file consists solely of a timestamp indicative of a time of download.

20 32. The apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the status file comprises a timestamp indicative of a time of download, a check out status, and respective identities of the at least one associated file.

25 33. The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the memory associated with the client is a root of a cache, the root identified by a root directory identifier.

30 34. The apparatus of Claim 33, wherein each of the respective local identifiers comprises the root directory identifier.

35. The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the software is further operable to:

generate the one or more files for uploading to the server;

5 generate a profile associated with each of the one or more files; and

upload the profile and the each of the one or more files to the server.

10 36. The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein the software comprises a drawing package.

15

37. A system comprising:

a server having a document manager stored therein, the document manager operable to maintain a respective profile for each of a plurality of files, each
5 profile including respective identifications of associated files associated with the file;

one or more clients associated with the server, each of the one or more clients having access to at least one computer readable medium comprising a
10 software program operable to:

request downloading of a selected file residing in the server, the selected file associated with at least one associated file;

in response to the request, initiate
15 downloading of the selected file and automatically determine the identity of, and initiate downloading of, the at least one associated file; and

initiate storing, in a memory associated with the client, of the selected file and the at least
20 one associated file under respective local identifiers.

38. The system of Claim 37, wherein each of the identifications is the Uniform Resource Locator.

25 39. The system of Claim 37, wherein the software is operable to examine a profile of the selected file in order to automatically determine the identity of, and initiate downloading of, the at least one associated file.

30

40. The system of Claim 37, wherein the software is further operable to maintain a respective status file for each of the selected file and the at least one associated file, each status file indicating one or more properties of the respective selected file and the at least one associated file.

41. The system of Claim 40, wherein the status file is a cookie file.

42. The system of Claim 40, wherein the status file consists solely of a timestamp indicative of a time of download.

43. The system of Claim 40, wherein the status file comprises a timestamp indicative of a time of download, a check out status, and respective identities of the at least one associated file.

44. The system of Claim 37, wherein the memory associated with the client is a root of a cache, the root identified by a root directory identifier.

45. The system of Claim 44, wherein each of the respective local identifiers comprises the root directory identifier.

46. The system of Claim 37, wherein the software is further operable to:
generate the one or more files for uploading to the server;

33

generate the profile associated with each of
the one or more files; and

upload the profile and the each of the one or
more files to the server.

5

10